


The amendment corrects claims 12-14 so that these multiply-dependent claims no longer depend from multiply-dependent claims. New claims 15-17 are supported by original claim 14 and directed to blasting systems in which the control system has the elements of claims 11-13. No new matter is introduced by this amendment.

Claims 1-17 are now in this case.

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies Form PTO-1390. A check in the amount of \$1882 is included for the filing fee. No other fees are believed to be required. If the enclosed amount is incorrect, please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to deposit account 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,


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MARKED-UP CLAIMS

7. A system for controlling a blasting network which includes a control unit and a communication link for the network, the communication link being capable of being placed in a control mode and in an operational mode, and a monitoring device for monitoring the communication link for at least one previously designated unsafe message, wherein the communication link in its control mode prevents any detected unsafe message from being transmitted to the blasting network and in its operational mode permits any previously designated unsafe message to be transmitted to the blasting network, and wherein in both its control mode and its operational mode the communication link permits any message which has not been designated as unsafe to be transmitted via the communication link.

12. A control system according to any one of claims 7 to [11] 10 wherein the monitoring device is a filter.

13. A control system according to any one of claims 7 to [12] 10 wherein the communication link is placed in its control and operational modes by means of a switch.

14. A blasting system including a control system according to any one of claims 7 to [13] 10 connected to a blasting network.